

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-07

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 DLOS-09 OES-07 EB-08 ACDA-07 COME-00

TRSE-00 AID-05 /109 W

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P R 271215Z JUL 77

FM AMEMBASSY BRIDGETOWN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 0000

INFO AMEMBASSY GEORGETOWN

AMEMBASSY KINGSTON

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY NASSAU

AMEMBASSY PORT OF SPAIN

SECDEF WASHDC

CNO

COMNAVFORCARIB ROOSEVELT ROADS

COMOCEANSYSLANT NORFOLK

CINCLANT FOR POLAD

C O N F I D E N T I A L BRIDGETOWN 1720

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MARR, MPOL, PINR, PLOS, BB, US

SUBJECT: BARBADOS REQUEST FOR INTELLIGENCE EXCHANGE UNDER BASES
AGREEMENT

REFS: A) BRIDGETOWN 1695 B) BRIDGETOWN 1700

SUMMARY: IN MEETING BETWEEN EMBASSY-NAVAL FACILITY TEAM AND A
GOB TEAM AT THE PERMANENT SECRETARY LEVEL ON JULY 26,
GOB EXPRESSED INTEREST IN FORMING CONSULTATIVE SUBBOARD FOR
REVIEW OF CERTAIN PROVISIONS OF EXISTING BASE AGREEMENT AS
PROVIDED BY ARTICLE 21 OF CURRENT AGREEMENT. GOB POINTED OUT
NEED FOR FURTHER IMPLEMENTATION OF ARTICLES 12 AND 19 AND
REQUESTED A US OCEANOGRAPHIC SURVEY OF AREA WITHIN BARBADOS'
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NEW 12 MILE TERRITORIAL LIMIT AND 200 MILE ECONOMIC
ZONE IN KEEPING WITH INTENT OF ARTICLE 11. THE GOB TEAM
ALSO REQUESTED THAT BARBADOS REGULARLY SHARE IN INTELLIGENCE
INFORMATION THE US MAY HAVE ON MOVEMENT OF FOREIGN MILITARY
VESSELS AND AIRCRAFT IN THE VICINITY OF BARBADOS IN ORDER
TO AVOID A REPEAT OF THE EVENTS OF JULY 22 AND 23 (REF B).
END SUMMARY.

1. ACTING PERMANENT SECRETARY OF THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS TELEPHONED ME JULY 25 TO INDICATE BARBADOS' INTEREST IN CONVENING A MEETING OF THE CONSULTATIVE SUBBOARD AUTHORIZED BY ARTICLE 21 OF THE EXISTING BASE AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE GOB AND THE US. NAVAL FACILITY COMMANDING OFFICER LT. COMMANDER CHARLES ZETTLE, EMBASSY POLITICAL OFFICER KOELEMAY AND I MET JULY 26 WITH ACTING PERMANENT SECRETARY BESLEY MAYCOCK, PERMANENT SECRETARY FOR DEFENSE AND SECURITY GILBERT MILLAR AND ACTING SOLICITOR-GENERAL CECIL TULLOCH. A POINT-BY-POINT SUMMARY OF DISCUSSION FOLLOWS.

2. IN THE WAKE OF WEEKEND EVENTS INVOLVING SOVIET VESSELS AND US AIRCRAFT OFF THE BARBADOS COAST ON JULY 22 AND 23 (REF B), MAYCOCK NOTED THE GOB INTENTION TO MEET REGULARLY WITH USG REPRESENTATIVES AS PROVIDED BY ARTICLE 21 OF THE EXISTING AGREEMENT AUTHORIZING THE US NAVAL FACILITY IN BARBADOS. BOTH MAYCOCK AND MILLAR EXPRESSED VIEWS THAT EVENTS OF THE PAST WEEKEND MIGHT HAVE BEEN AVOIDED IF SUCH CONSULTATIONS HAD TAKEN PLACE REGULARLY IN THE PAST. SPECIFICALLY, MAYCOCK AND MILLAR NOTED THE WISHES OF "THE MINISTER" (EXTERNAL AFFAIRS MINISTER HENRY FORDE IN THE FORMER CASE, PRIME MINISTER TOM ADAMS IN THE LATTER) TO RECEIVE REGULAR INFORMATION FROM THE UNITED STATES ON THE MOVEMENT OF MILITARY VESSELS AND AIRCRAFT THROUGH OR NEAR BARBADIAN TERRITORIAL WATERS.
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3. MAYCOCK NOTED THAT BARBADOS WAS IN THE PROCESS OF ESTABLISHING A 12 MILE TERRITORIAL LIMIT AND A 200 MILE ECONOMIC ZONE (WITH, OF COURSE, MODIFICATIONS REFLECTING THE LIMITS OF OTHER ISLANDS IN THE AREA) AND THAT THE AIR TRAFFIC CONTROL RADIUS FOR ADAMS AIRPORT EXTENDED 60 MILES. MAYCOCK ADDED THAT EVENTS OF JULY 22 AND 23 INVOLVED PROBLEMS AND EXPENDITURES FOR BARBADOS THAT WOULD NOT HAVE BEEN NECESSARY HAD THE GOB HAD PRIOR INFORMATION FROM THE UNITED STATES ON THE PRESENCE OF SOVIET VESSELS IN THE AREA AND ON THE US RECONNAISSANCE AIRCRAFT FOLLOWING. MILLAR ADDED THAT MOST ANYTHING THAT INTERESTED THE US IN SUCH MATTERS, I.E. WITH RELATION TO SECURITY, WOULD ALSO INTEREST THE GOB.

4. MAYCOCK PROPOSED THAT A CONSULTATIVE SUBBOARD MEET MONTHLY IN ORDER TO DISCUSS IMPLEMENTATION OF ALL PROVISIONS OF THE EXISTING BASE AGREEMENT AND SPECIFICALLY MENTIONED THE FOLLOWING AGREEMENT ARTICLES: ARTICLE 19, APPRENTICESHIP AND INDUSTRIAL TRAINING, ARTICLE 12, RADIO FREQUENCIES TO BE USED BY THE NAVAL FACILITY; AND ARTICLE 11, SHARING OF INFORMATION FROM SURVEYS CONDUCTED. IN SO FAR AS THE LAST IS CONCERNED, THE GOB IS INTERESTED IN HAVING AN OCEANOGRAPHIC

SURVEY MADE WITH REGARD TO ITS NEW 12 MILE LIMIT AND 200 MILE ECONOMIC ZONE. MILLAR ALSO REITERATED THE NEED FOR COAST GUARD AND BARBADOS REGIMENT TRAINING REPORTED IN REF A.

5. FINALLY, MILLAR SUGGESTED THAT, SINCE THE US HAD NOT INFORMED THE GOB OF THE MOVEMENT OF THE SOVIET VESSELS AND THE TRAILING US PLANES, IT WAS NOT UNREASONABLE FOR THE GOB TO ASK FOR US FOR REIMBURSEMENT OF EXPENSES THE GOB HAD INCURRED SUCH AS FOR FUEL FOR PRIVATE SPOTTER PLANES AND A COAST GUARD VESSEL AND THE OVERTIME PAY FOR MEMBERS OF THE BARBADOS REGIMENT PLACED ON ALERT THE NIGHT OF JULY 22.

6. COMMENT: THE MEETING WAS CONDUCTED IN A POLITE MANNER AND NO GOB OFFICIAL WAS ACCUSATIVE IN REMARKS CONCERNING CONFIDENTIAL

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THE EVENTS OF THE WEEKEND, WHICH OBVIOUSLY UPSET THEM. INDEED, MILLAR SPECIFICALLY STATED THAT THE GOB HAD NO CRITICISM TO MAKE OF EITHER THE EMBASSY OR THE NAVAL FACILITY IN CONNECTION WITH THE EVENTS. THE REQUEST BY MILLAR IN PARA 5 WAS REJECTED OUT OF HAND. I POINTED OUT THAT THE GOB'S PRINCIPAL CONCERN WAS THE SOVIET VESSELS RATHER THAN US AIRCRAFT AND THAT THERE WAS NOTHING IN THE EXISTING BASES AGREEMENT THAT REQUIRED US TO REPORT ON THE MOVEMENTS OF A THIRD NATION'S SHIPS. I FURTHER NOTED THAT THE EMBASSY WOULD HAVE TO CONSULT WITH WASHINGTON CONCERNING THE POSSIBLE SHARING OF INTELLIGENCE INFORMATION OF THE SORT THE GOB HAD REQUESTED. BOTH LT. COMDR. ZETTLE AND I ASSURED THE BARBADIANS THAT WE WERE INTERESTED IN COOPERATING WITH THE GOB WITH RESPECT TO TRAINING, RADIO FREQUENCY USAGE AND OTHER PROVISIONS OF THE EXISTING BASE AGREEMENT. WITH REGARD TO THE PROPOSED REGULAR SUBBOARD MEETINGS UNDER ARTICLE 21, I TOLD THE GOB THAT WE WOULD PREFER TO AWAIT THE ARRIVAL OF AMBASSADOR ORTIZ BEFORE AGREEING TO ANY SPECIFICS.

7. ACTION REQUESTED: PLEASE ADVISE ON THE POSSIBILITY OF INTELLIGENCE INFORMATION SHARING WITH THE GOB AS CONCERNS FOREIGN NAVAL VESSELS AND MILITARY AIRCRAFT THAT MAY VENTURE INTO BARBADIAN TERRITORIAL OR IMMEDIATELY ADJACENT WATERS. ALSO WOULD APPRECIATE AN ASSESSMENT OF THE POSSIBILITY OF COMPLYING WITH THE GOB REQUEST FOR AN OCEANOGRAPHIC SURVEY OF AREA TO BE INCLUDED IN GOB 12 MILE LIMIT AND 200 MILE ECONOMIC ZONE.
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